

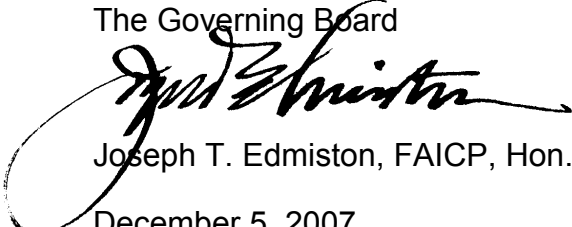


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: December 5, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(h): Consideration of resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Mujeres de la Tierra for the Northeast Los Angeles Open Space project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Mujeres de la Tierra for the Northeast Los Angeles Open Space project.

Background: The Northeast Los Angeles Open Space project aims at identifying, analyzing, and acquiring the last remaining hilltops in the Northeast Los Angeles area. This project is still in the development phase, although hilltops have been identified as potential acquisition sites. Paradise Hill is one such hilltop that would provide community access to open space and habitat conservation if acquired. Mujeres de la Tierra will work to engage residents of the surrounding community to educate and obtain feedback about conservation issues and about the potential benefits of acquiring Paradise Hill.

Mujeres de la Tierra is a community action organization that supports the building of healthier and more sustainable community environments by fostering community engagement and nurturing active individual participation. They support families and residents in urban communities who want to become active participants and decision-makers in critical issues impacting their families, neighborhoods and communities.

This contract total is not to exceed \$42,500. The first Phase will be for planning activities and to prepare the materials for distribution and discussion and will be authorized not to exceed \$20,000. The second Phase will require MRCA staff authorization prior to proceeding. This Phase will be for the implementation of the public participation plan and include community meetings and outreach activities.